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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/801,004	03/16/2004	Kouichi Nishimura	8022-1068	1594
466	7590	10/03/2005	EXAMINER	
YOUNG & THOMPSON 745 SOUTH 23RD STREET 2ND FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22202			NGUYEN, PATRICIA T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2817	

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

EK

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/801,004	NISHIMURA, KOUICHI
	Examiner Patricia T. Nguyen	Art Unit 2817

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-3, 6-8 and 15-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 4, 5, 9-14, 19 and 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/16/04.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION***Drawings***

The drawings are objected to because Fig. 2 does not have the third and fourth current mirror circuits connected as claimed in claims 6-8.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claims 6-8 are objected to because of the following informalities:

The third and fourth current mirror circuits do not connect as claimed according to Fig. 2.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hojabri, U.S. Patent # 6,236,269 B1.

Fig. 2 of Hojabri discloses an amplifier comprising: transistors M38, M39, M29, M30, M12 can be read as first differential amplifier section wherein transistors M38, M39 can be read as a first differential pair of PMOS transistors; transistors M445, M446, M450, M461, M478 can be read as second differential amplifier section wherein transistors M445, M446 can be read as a second differential pair of NMOS transistors; transistors M477, M44, M12212 can be read as a bias circuit wherein signal I_s can be read as a control signal; transistors M463, M468 can be read as an output circuit; transistor M12 can be read a first PMOS transistor; transistor M478 can be read a first NMOS transistor; transistor M1212 can be read as a first switch; transistor M44 can be read as a second switch.

Regarding claims 6, 7, and 8, transistors M467, M38 can be read as a first current mirror circuit; M39, M468 can be read as a second current mirror circuit; M450, M458 can be read as a third current mirror circuit; M461, M463 can be read as a fourth current mirror circuit.

Regarding claims 15-18, although Hojabri does not have his method of outputting an output signal from first and second input voltages in a differential amplifier comprising first and second differential amplifier sections written out structurally, his method resides inherently in his apparatus.

Claims 1, 2, 15, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hogeboom, U.S. Patent # 6,169,454 B1.

Fig. 2 of Hogeboom discloses an amplifier comprising: transistors 70 can be read as first differential amplifier section as well as a first differential pair of PMOS transistors; transistors 30 can be read as second differential amplifier section as well as a second differential pair of NMOS transistors; transistors 80 and 40 can be read as a bias circuit; gain stages 140, 150, 180, 190, 200, 210 can be read as an output circuit; transistor 80 can be read a first PMOS transistor; transistor 40 can be read a first NMOS transistor.

Regarding claims 15 and 16, although Hogeboom does not have his method of outputting an output signal from first and second input voltages in a differential amplifier comprising first and second differential amplifier sections written out structurally, his method resides inherently in his apparatus.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4, 5, 9-14, 19, and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. Patents # 6,052,025 and # 5,953,276 contain some limitations of the claimed invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-1927. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pascal can be reached on 703-309-4940. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PTN

September 26, 2005

Patricia Nguyen

PATRICIA NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER